

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COURT OF APPEALS

In the Matter of ROBERT SPERRY, KYLE
SPERRY, NATHAN SPERRY, and AUSTIN
SPERRY, Minors.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, f/k/a
FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY.

UNPUBLISHED
April 11, 2006

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

CAROL SPERRY,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

GARY SPERRY, JR.,

Respondent.

No. 265630
St. Clair Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 04-000554

In the Matter of ROBERT SPERRY, KYLE
SPERRY, NATHAN SPERRY, and AUSTIN
SPERRY, Minors.

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES, f/k/a
FAMILY INDEPENDENCE AGENCY,

Petitioner-Appellee,

v

GARY D. SPERRY, JR.,

Respondent-Appellant,

and

CAROL SPERRY,

No. 265818
St. Clair Circuit Court
Family Division
LC No. 04-000554

Respondent.

Before: White, P.J., Whitbeck, C.J., and Davis, J.

PER CURIAM.

Respondents appeal as of right the trial court order terminating their parental rights to the minor children under MCL 712A.19b(3)(c)(i), (g), and (j). We affirm.

The trial court did not clearly err in finding that the statutory grounds for termination were established by clear and convincing evidence. MCR 3.977(J); *In re Miller*, 433 Mich 331, 337; 445 NW2d 161 (1989). The evidence established that respondents were unable to support their children or provide them with a clean and sanitary home, and that they lacked motivation to regain custody of their children throughout the case. Although respondent-mother completed parenting classes and attended counseling sessions after the second referral, she failed to maintain employment despite considerable assistance from the workers. Respondent-mother failed to inquire about her children or show any empathy for them. Respondent-father attended only three counseling sessions after the second referral, failed to complete parenting classes after three separate referrals, and failed to maintain employment. He refused to acknowledge that there had ever been problems that required rectifying. The evidence was clear and convincing and supported the termination of respondents' parental rights.

Furthermore, the evidence did not establish that the children's best interests precluded termination of respondents' parental rights. MCL 712A.19b(5); *In re Trejo Minors*, 462 Mich 341, 356-357; 612 NW2d 407 (2000). Respondents had a long and extensive protective services history in Michigan and West Virginia involving environmental neglect. Their neglect also extended beyond the home to the physical care of the children. Although they had been offered many services over the years, at the time of termination respondents still did not have adequate housing for the children or the means or inclination to adequately care for and support them. The trial court did not clearly err in terminating respondents' parental rights.

Affirmed.

/s/ Helene N. White
/s/ William C. Whitbeck
/s/ Alton T. Davis